Merger of NISCOM and INSDC

1462. SHRI A. VIJAYA RAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the report of the CSIR Review Committee, with Abid Hussain as Chairman, recommended to merge National Institute of Science Communication, formerly PID, and the Indian National Scientific Documentation Centre, to enable consolidation of information service around a strong National Science Library;

(b) if so, whether the recommendations have been accepted;

(c) if so, the details of action taken thereon; and

(d) if not, the reasons for the rejection?

THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) to (c) Yes Sir, the Abid Hussain Committee in its Report of 1986 had inter-alia recommended that PID and INSDOC should be merged, as this would consolidate information service around a strong National Science Library, a network anticipatory information service and a translation service. The Abid Hussain Committee report was remitted by then Prime Minister of India to the Science Advisory Council (SAC) to the Prime Minister for their observation. In regard to the merger, SAC had suggested that the purpose of INSDOC should be re-examined. These recommendations were considered by the CSIR Society, Chaired by the Prime Minister wherein it was decided that the functioning of INSDOC be reviewed. Review Committee, that was constituted to consider and assess the possibility of synergising of the roles, functions, core competencies, recommended merger of the two institutes. The recommendations of the Committee have been considered by the Governing Body of CSIR.

(d) Does not arise.

Establishment of Institute of Seismology in Gujarat

1463. SHRI BRAHMA KUMAR BHATT: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received a proposal from the Gujarat Government to establish an Institute of Seismology Research;

(b) if so, the status of the proposal; and